

thePost

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NEWSNOTES

Combined Federal Campaign exceeds goal at Dix

More than 265 employees made the 2007 Combined Federal Campaign at Fort Dix a success this week, topping the \$33,000 goal with \$34,182 in contributions. The campaign has been extended, and the closing ceremony will be Dec. 13 at 10 a.m. at the McGuire AFB Community Club. Campaign project officers with complete information on the many charitable organizations represented by CFC have been appointed in each directorate and tenant organization. If you cannot locate your representative, call Rod Martell, ACS, 562-2186.

Laugh Factory in business at Club Dix Dec. 12

The Laugh Factory of NYC is bringing its new comedy show "Funny Biz" to Club Dix Wednesday, Dec. 12 at 7 p.m. The show will be entertained by some of the best talent on the East Coast. And there's more -- the show will feature an open mic session for local talent. If you think you're funny call 723-4756 to find out how you can be a part of the show. The show is free and no tickets are required.

Thrift Shop posts holiday bargains

Christmas is just around the corner and the Fort Dix Thrift Shop has lots of holiday items to help you decorate. Looking for some reading for the chilly days ahead? All P06501 (Thrift Shop property) paperbacks are now only 10 cents each. Look for them on back wall of store. One more special sale for December, all TSP and expired P06501 clothing is now \$2 for a paper grocery sack full. Bags are available at cashier when you enter.

For December, the shop is open Saturday, Dec. 15 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The shop will be open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. until Dec. 18. The Thrift Shop will be closed for the holidays from close of business on Tuesday, Dec. 18 and reopen Thursday, Jan. 3, 2008.

Finance Office posts holiday closures

The Fort Dix Finance Office will be closed half day on Tuesday Dec. 11, to allow the staff to participate in the installation's annual Holiday Party. The office will also be closed half-day Dec. 14.

WEATHER

FRIDAY -- Chilly and damp with morning snow fading to rain by afternoon. High of 46, overnight low of 33 degrees.

SATURDAY -- Morning showers with some sun in afternoon, slightly warmer with a daytime high of 46 degrees and low of 28.

SUNDAY -- Mostly cloudy, slight chance of rain throughout the day, high of 41 and overnight low of 38 degrees.

MONDAY -- Cloudy with scattered showers, some evening snow possible, high of 47 degrees and low of 32.

TUESDAY -- Showers and cooler through the morning, daytime high of 40 and overnight low of 38 degrees.

WEDNESDAY -- Cloudy, some sun in afternoon, high of 47 and low of 35 degrees.

THURSDAY -- Morning showers and continued cloudy, daytime high of 48 and overnight low of 28 degrees.

Dix celebrates season

Fort Dix will kick off the 2007 Holiday season today with its annual Tree Lighting Ceremony at 4 p.m. behind Wurman Hall.

The ceremony -- long a tradition on the installation -- will include far more than the flick of the switch that lights up the huge Norway Spruce.

The post will salute members of all services and their families, carolers will serenade and Santa and Mrs. Claus will roll in with a Fire Department escort.

Hot chocolate and cookies will also be served to help those in attendance keep warm.

Santa (minus the fire engine) will also appear Saturday at Outdoor Recreation Center, Building 6045, for a "Paws With Claus" photo session from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more details on this rare opportunity, call 562-6767.

The man in red will also appear at the Installation Holiday Party Dec. 11 at Griffith Field House.

Tickets are now on sale -- \$10 per person -- and, as usual, are going fast. Representatives in each directory have tickets for sale, and they are available in MWR facilities around post. The event is set from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Top billing this year is an indoor skating rink that will showcase both professional skating demos and Dixians who choose to don skates and entertain the crowds.

Officially, the command will use the occasion to recognize and present awards to the Civilian Employee and Supervisor of the Year and the Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year.

First on the agenda from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. will be a holiday feast, featuring turkey, ham and fish, and all the trimmings, including coffee and sodas. There will be an open bar from 1 to 2:30 p.m.

"Hearts Apart" is hosting a Holiday Party for mobilized and deployed Soldiers and family members Dec. 11 at the Fort Dix Youth Center at 6 p.m. Call 562-3271 for more information.

The Main Post Chapel will host a Chanukah Party Dec. 10 at 6 p.m.

A Christmas eve Catholic Mass is scheduled for 5 p.m., and a Protestant Candlelight Service at 7 p.m., both in the main chapel.

For a complete listing of Chapel Services, please see page 9.



Ed Mingin

TREE TIME -- Valerie Nolasco, 11, and Asher Gardner, 13, top off the decorations on the Youth Center holiday tree with a gold star during a decorating party Dec. 5. The Youth Center, located on Locust Street in the Garden Terrace housing area, will host a variety of holiday activities, including the Hearts Apart holiday celebration for mobilized and deployed Soldiers and family members Dec. 11 at 6 p.m.

Furlough notices may go out this month

Fred W. Baker III
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4, 2007 -- Some Army civilian employees may get layoff notices before Christmas, because \$178 billion in emergency funds have not yet been approved to continue the war on terror, a senior Defense Department official said today.

President Bush called on Congress twice publicly this week to pass an emergency funding bill, but has vowed to veto any bill that imposes a mandatory troop withdrawal date.

Some members of Congress have responded by saying the Pentagon has funds to continue operations through March, but a Pentagon spokesman today said furlough notices for Army employees could start going out the middle of this month.

The employees would not be furloughed until after Christmas, but some contracts require a 60-day notice if the furlough will be longer than 60 days, Defense Department spokesman Bryan Whitman told reporters at the Pentagon. The department is using fiscal 2008 funds -- not part of the supplemental funding needed -- to keep operations going in the war on terror, he explained.

"Anyone who thinks that this is not a serious situation is simply misinformed or is ignoring the facts. We have tried to be as matter of fact as we can on this, but the reality is that we are using our program budget for FY 08 ... to fund our operations in Iraq and Afghanistan," Whitman said.

DoD is using its readiness funding, or operations and maintenance accounts, which typically pay for training, supplies, and maintenance of weapons and equipment.

Earlier this month, Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates requested a shift \$3.7 billion from Navy and Air Force payrolls and an \$800 million excess in the working capital fund to

Army and Marine Corps operations.

If funding continues to be delayed, it could affect as many as 200,000 civilian employees and contractors, DoD officials reported earlier.

"In mid-February, the Army will run out of all of their O&M funding for the entire year, because they will have spent it on operations in

Afghanistan and Iraq. That will require some fairly significant and

harsh actions by the department, specifically the Army. And the Marine Corps is only about a month behind them," Whitman said.

Military installations soon will have to shut down operations and furlough civilian employees, terminate

contracts, and move into what Whitman called a "warm" status.

"Facts are the facts. We're trying to keep people as well informed as we can, but anybody that thinks that we have sufficient funding to go beyond what we have stated is just either misinformed or electing not to examine the facts," he said.

Petraeus: Violence down, but fight in Iraq not over

Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

BAGHDAD, Dec. 6, 2007 -- Violence in Iraq has

dropped significantly in recent months, but it's still too soon to declare the

home stretch in U.S. operations here, the commander of Multinational Force Iraq said today.

Army Gen David H. Petraeus cited significant security progress during a

roundtable with reporters at the Multinational Task Force headquarters at

Camp Victory. Following the roundtable discussion, the general spent an hour

with visiting Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates.

Weekly attacks in recent weeks are roughly 60 percent of the levels they were in June, Petraeus said. High-profile attacks are down 60 percent from their high in

March, and attacks overall have dropped during the last seven weeks to levels not seen here consistently since

spring 2005. As a result, fatalities are down, too. Civilian deaths have fallen dramatically to rates not seen since late

2005. And during a year Petraeus acknowledged has witnessed the most U.S. combat losses since operations first began in Iraq, the figure for November was its low-



Gen. David H. Petraeus

est in 20 months.

But Petraeus told reporters it's far too early to talk about turning a corner or seeing light at the end of the tunnel.

"Nobody in uniform is doing victory dances in the end zone," he said. "There is much hard work still to be done and that there are numerous difficulties, enemies and issues that still must be addressed."

The challenge, he said, is to continue bringing down violence and building Iraqi security forces to confront it themselves while promoting similar advances on other fronts.

Petraeus credited the formula that's brought about security progress: More coalition and Iraqi forces -- conventional, special operations

and counterterrorism -- are in the fight. They're infusing intelligence to target terrorists, and as they clear al Qaeda strongholds, they're pursuing terrorists who flee to other areas.

"As a result of our combined efforts, we have taken away a number of enemy sanctuaries, killed or captured numerous enemy leaders and rank-and-file members and disrupted enemy networks inside Iraq," Petraeus said.

Meanwhile, the Iraqi people who have tired of violence are becoming partners in the fight. Petraeus cited

(continued on page 3)

Classic DVD sets ideal Xmas gifts



Steve Snyder
Public Affairs Staff

What do you get conspicuous consumers, defined as those who have everything, for Christmas?

Why not introduce them to some classic films on DVD? Better still, why not treat them to a collector's set that captures the personae of performers whose work towers above the tripe typically esteemed by yahoos, today.

Those who regard Johnny Depp as the be-all and end-all of swashbucklers have, obviously, never seen an Errol Flynn movie. Or even one by Tyrone Power.

Power starred in some intelligent historical epics in his day and four (out of five features) have been packaged in the Tyrone Power Collection, courtesy of 20th Century Fox.

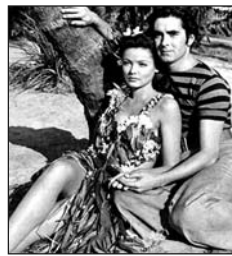
Power teams with Cesar Romero in the breathtakingly beautiful technicolor *Captain from Castile* (1947) which uses the Spanish conquest of the Aztec empire in Mexico as a colorful background. *Prince of Foxes* (1949) is a lavish spectacle about power politics during the Italian Renaissance period that really should have been done in color. But, honest, black and white visages don't detract from the film's charms which include the incomparable Orson Welles. *The Black Rose* (1950) is in color, also features Welles stealing scenes from Power, and captures the pageantry of 13th century England and the Orient. *Son of Fury* (1942) is notable for being Gene Tierney's movie debut and, if memory serves, was a entertaining adventure. I don't recall 1941's *Blood and Sand* but it's in sparkling color and is about a bullfighter's romances.

So tune in to a swashbuckler worthy of the name.



Tyrone-Power.com

CAPTAIN FROM CASTILE (1947) — Tyrone Power, middle right, joins Cesar Romero, mid-left, as swashbuckling conquistadores conquering Aztecs in Mexico in "Captain From Castile." The epic contains breathtaking photography, a rousing musical score and a superb portrayal of Hernando Cortez by Romero. The film is among four classics offered in Tyrone Power DVD collection.



DYNAMIC DVD DUO — Tyrone Power's "Prince of Foxes (1949)" above left, matches wits with Cesare Borgia in Renaissance Italy, a film blending intrigue with fabulous scenery (but in black & white) and a battle or two. In 1942's "Son of Fury," above right, Power flees cruel uncle George Sanders but finds winsome Gene Tierney on South Sea isle. (photos courtesy of Tyrone-Power.com)



THE RAZOR'S EDGE — Tyrone Power consults with a guru high in the Himalayas in this 1946 tale of a man's search for the meaning of life. "The Razor's Edge" is a slick adaptation of Somerset Maugham's philosophical novel. Not in color but its 146 minutes engross. Not in Power's DVD set but complements collection nicely.

www.foxstudiosclassics.com



Tyrone-Power.com



Tyrone-Power.com

THE BLACK ROSE (1950) — Englishmen Tyrone Power, left in above left scene, and Jack Hawkins, right, explain the range of English bows to General "Bayan of a thousand eyes" (Orson Welles), center, on their adventures in the 13th century Orient. Power, above right, is obliged to prove his bravery by walking across a rope strewn with swords and other unpleasant protuberances. "The Black Rose" joins other hit films in the Tyrone Power DVD collection.

"A date which will live in infamy..."



National Archives

On the morning of Sunday, Dec. 7, 1941, 66 years ago today, two aerial attack waves totalling 350 aircraft were launched from six aircraft carriers of the Imperial Japanese Navy attacking the United States Pacific Fleet base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. The attack wrecked two U.S. Navy battleships, one minelayer and two destroyers beyond repair along with destroying 188 American aircraft, killing 2,332 Americans and wounding 1,139 others. But America's aircraft carriers were at sea and untouched. Enraged by what President Franklin Roosevelt termed a day of infamy, the United States entered World War II, its Navy sinking four Japanese carriers at the Battle of Midway in 1942 to ensure control of the Pacific theater. Two atom bombs dropped on Japan in 1945 made invasion unnecessary, ending the war.

Dixans off the cuff

compiled by Steve Snyder

"What do you want for Christmas?"

Alison Jones
recreation aid
Outdoor Recreation

"If money was no object, I'd like a new car and house... but I really do need a gift card... I just want a new purse. The one I want costs \$600."



Lizka Rodriguez
lead clerk
Fort Dix Lodging

"I need somebody to fix my house, especially the master bedroom - as a gift."



Spec. Steven Lauther
Medical Command
Sea Girt

"I'd like health and good fortune. I want money for Christmas. And I would like to see all the Soldiers set to deploy come home safely (at the end of their tours)."



Donna Trimarco
Outdoor Recreation

"I want my family to be healthy. I need a break, too, and to get my car fixed and paid off."



George Gonzalez
recreational supervisor
Outdoor Recreation

"I would like my whole family to get together. Half lives in Connecticut and the other half in Puerto Rico. If I'm lucky, I'll see most of them."



Pfc. Casey Cortes
Medical Command
Sea Girt

"I'd like a digital camera to take pictures of my friends and family."



the Post

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Shop, drive safely this season to avoid holiday Grinch

Fort Dix Safety Office

Give yourself the gift of personal safety this year.

This is the season for everyone to go shopping and find just the right gift for that someone special.

As shopping malls grow ever bigger, so do the parking areas that surround them -- and groups of people with vehicles, money and packages in hand are increasingly seen as targets of opportunity by thieves.

Here are some suggestions recommended by the National Safety Council and local police departments to help increase your personal safety in and around your car while you are shopping this holiday season.

Parking:

- * Park in highly visible, well lighted areas and be mindful of suspicious activity. Report any lights out or suspicious persons to store security.

- * Always carefully note where you parked your car so you don't spend unnecessary time walking around the parking lot.

- * Always lock your car doors, even before you buckle up, both when driving and while your parked.

- * Never leave your keys in your car. NEVER When you leave your car take your keys and lock the door.

- * Limit the amount of time you spend sitting in your car with the engine running. Don't be a target for a carjacker.

- * Never leave gifts or valuables in your car where they can be seen. Lock everything in the trunk. It only takes a second for a thief to break a window and ruin your holiday.

Walking to your car:

- * Any person walking alone is potential prey for assault. Shop with a friend or family member whenever possible.

- * Walk purposefully and



AGE DOESN'T MATTER -- Don't assume that your car won't be a target because it isn't a new luxury vehicle. Lock your doors and close your windows. Cars are stolen for use in other crimes, then dumped in hopes they will be stripped.

look confident. Assertive body language can help prevent an attack. Don't slouch (you may have heard this from your mother a time or two), keep your head up and look as though you would cause an uproar if you were bothered.

- * Try not to carry a lot of packages at once, this can make you an easy target.

- * If you carry a purse, don't let it dangle by your side in such a way that a thief can run by and grab it. Carry your purse close to your body, preferably in front or under your coat.

- * When possible, wear shoes and clothing that will not hinder an escape. Sneakers are best, shoes with low heels are your second best bet.

Keep a pair in your car if you plan on shopping on your way home from work. If you wear high heels and are pursued, kick them off and run barefoot.

- * As you walk, observe

those around you. Notice if there are strangers sitting in parked cars or standing in your pathway. If so, choose an alternate route and by all means, avoid them.

- * Stay away from isolated or poorly lit areas. Avoid walking near shrubbery which can hide attackers.

- * Always be alert and aware. Have your keys in your hand and be ready to unlock your car door without delay.

- * As you approach your car, look under and around it. Before you get in look in the back seat and on the floor.

- * Don't place your purse or package on the roof of the car while loading other items.

If you are approached:

- * If someone suspicious approaches your car, honk your car's horn. It's one of the loudest and fastest ways to scare someone off or let others know that you need help.

- * If a car approaches you while you are walking, and you are harassed by the occupants, scream and run in the opposite direction so that the driver will have to turn around to pursue you.

- * If you feel that you are being followed, walk or run quickly to a lighted store or where crowds of people can offer help if needed. Know where to go for help, police station, firehouse, etc. Do not go home -- you may lead an attacker to your house, and may not be able to get from your car safely inside.

- * It's a good idea to keep a police whistle on your key chain.

If you feel threatened, follow your instincts. Do anything you can to draw attention. Don't be embarrassed. Scream, yell or blow the whistle, or do anything else that will draw attention to your plight.

Other helpful suggestions:

- * Keep your car in good mechanical condition and keep the tank filled with gas.

- * Keep your house keys separate from your car keys.

- * Don't keep your purse on the seat beside you. Keep it out of sight.

- * Avoid carrying large sums of money and unnecessary credit cards.

Law enforcement agencies suggest keeping "mugger money," ten or fifteen dollars in your wallet or purse to satisfy money hungry thieves.

Don't flash cash inside the store when you pay.

Consider carrying only a small change purse with necessities instead of a handbag.

- * Don't pick up suspicious items; they may not be what you think.

By taking the right precautions and thinking clearly, you can avoid becoming a victim, and have a safe and fun holiday.

Fight not over in Iraq

(continued from page 1)
Sunni Arab's rejection of al Qaeda and extremist ideologies. "As a result of this development, we have increasingly received important support and information from citizens in areas that used to be al Qaeda sanctuaries and bases," he said.

Local citizens are committing personally to security in their areas, as well. They're volunteering for the police, army or local citizens groups that are keeping once-violent neighborhood clear of al Qaeda. They're providing tips about terrorist activities and weapons. Petraeus credited their efforts for nearly doubling

the number of weapons caches uncovered.

"We believe the cumulative effect of these finds has gradually degraded our enemy's ability to conduct attacks," Petraeus said. Petraeus also cited more aggressive action by Iraq's neighbors, including Syria, to crack down on the flow of foreign fighters across their borders into Iraq. He expressed hope that Iran will live up to the promises its senior leaders made to their Iraqi counterparts to stop training, funding, arming and directing groups that threaten Iraq's security.

Another promising development is radical cleric Muqtada al-Sadr's declared ceasefire this summer to rid his Mahdi Army militia of criminals and assassins.

"We applaud al-Sadr's action, even as all of us in Iraq, including those in his units, recognize that some elements connected with the militia continue to carry out criminal actions and thus must be dealt with by Iraqi and coalition forces," Petraeus said.

He said these recent positive trends and factors that have produced them "are changing the context in many parts of Iraq."

But the general conceded

that the fight is far from over. "We have to be careful not to get feeling too successful," he said.

You "just keep your head down and keep moving," he said, conceding that while officials push for more progress, there will be "setbacks along the way."

"Success in Iraq is not akin to flipping on a light switch," he said. "It emerges slowly and fitfully with reverses as well as advances."

As troops "soldier through" those successes and strive to build on the momentum, Petraeus expressed hope that Iraqi leaders "will take advantage of the security gains that have been purchased through the sacrifice of Iraqi and coalition forces."

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Army leaders renew pact with families

Elizabeth M. Lorge
Army News Service

ALEXANDRIA, Va., Dec. 3, 2007 - Army leaders renewed their commitment to Families during the opening session of the Army Family Action Plan Conference today and announced that Secretary of the Army Pete Geren and Army Chief of Staff Gen. George W. Casey Jr. will chair a Soldier and Family Readiness Board of Directors.

Although this year's AFAP is the 24th annual conference, Gen. Casey and Lt. Gen. Robert Wilson, commanding general of the Installation Management Command and Family Action Plan lead, said they expected it to be especially important because of the Army Family Covenant.

Initially signed in October, the covenant is the Army's commitment to take care of Soldiers and their Families, to

standardize and fund Family programs and services, provide top-quality healthcare, improve housing, ensure excellence in schools and childcare and expand education and employment opportunities for Families.

"I started asking people, 'Is the role of the Family in the Soldier's decision to stay in the all-volunteer force so important that we should treat Families as a readiness issue?'" said Gen. Casey. "The answer I got, time and again, was, 'Yeah. What took you so long?' When you tell someone in uniform it's a readiness issue, you do it, you take care of it."

Describing the Army as "out of balance," but still the "best in the world," Gen. Casey said that over the next three to four years, the Army must sustain its current Soldiers, in part by taking care of their Families.

The Army must also prepare Soldiers for success in the current conflict and reset them when they come home. According to Gen. Casey, the Army is working on a standardized six-month reset model, where Soldiers will essentially go into "dry dock" for six months after deployment to get organized in individual training. After that time, they'll be ready to restart their training.

Gen. Casey said the Army is also 60 percent finished with its largest transformation since World War II and must continue to transform to meet the needs of the 21st century. A large part of that is transforming support structures to meet the needs of an expeditionary Army at war.

He said the Army has already made great strides, and has devoted \$1.4 billion to Families in this year's budget. The Army is working with the Department of Defense and

TRICARE on healthcare, and in the meantime, has placed surgeons on installation commanders' staffs.

The Army already has about 79,000 privatized homes and by 2010, 97 percent of Army installations will have Residential Community Initiatives.

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Kenneth O. Preston compared the new houses to government housing when he was a young noncommissioned officer, noting that when he enlisted, specialists and below weren't even eligible for government housing. It was considered a privilege.

"I had a chance to visit some of the new Residential Communities Initiative housing," he said. "Standing down there talking to a young staff sergeant, his wife and two children, and they were describing this 1700-square-foot home that they were living in. They took me inside and showed me around and I was very appreciative for them to open their house and show me the quality of life that they were now living in."

"But as I stood there in the front yard, across the street, off to my left there was an old housing area. I lived in that housing area as a staff sergeant. They were eight apartment units all put together, two-story ups and downs. I remember in the summer months, cutting the back yard, I had to walk all the way around the other apartments to cut the grass in the front. It was a unique experience to reflect on where we've been, where we are as we now talk about the Army Family Covenant, and where the Army's going for the future," he said.

The Army will also go from 130 to almost 200 childcare centers in the next few years, Gen. Casey said. He said the Army has partnered with 30 national employers like Home Depot to employ more than 20,000 spouses under the Army Spouse Employment Program. The DOD and Department of Labor recently announced a new program to give spouses \$3,000 for job training. Finally, the DOD is working to broaden a recruiting initiative that allows servicemembers to transfer G.I. Bill benefits to spouses and children.

"Listening to the Families, having been in Iraq, understanding what we were asking of them, having lost my own dad in Vietnam, I understand the effects war has on Families," said Gen. Casey. "Good enough, just making the best of it, wasn't what Army Families needed. They need support. We're committed to delivering that."

The Army Family Action Plan Conference continues through Dec. 7 in Alexandria, Va.

The Army Family Action Plan covenant is the Army's commitment to take care of Soldiers and their families, to standardize and fund family programs and services, provide top-quality healthcare, improve housing, ensure excellence in schools and childcare and expand education and employment opportunities for families.



LEARNING THE ROPES -- Transportation Port Opening Element (TPOE) Soldiers Sgt. Carla Bryant, Sgt. Linda Amato, Staff Sgt. Matthew Beasley and Sgt. Jairo Jimenez, from left, learn more about the functioning of the Battle Command Sustained Support System (BCS 3). These Soldiers were joined by Airmen from McGuire Air Force Base's 621st Contingency Response for the In-Transit Visibility Expo, or ITV, Dec. 5. ITV refers to the equipment used to track cargo and personnel on a worldwide level.

Ryan Morton

Soldiers, Airmen get on right track

Ryan Morton
Public Affairs Staff

Soldiers from Fort Dix's Transportation Port Opening Element (TPOE) and Airmen from McGuire Air Force Base's 621st Contingency Response Wing got together to attend the In-Transit Visibility Expo, or ITV, Dec. 5. ITV refers to the equipment used to track cargo and personnel on a worldwide level. It's somewhat like the equipment used by Federal Express or the United Parcel Service to track their packages. It also uses satellite technologies that are used in Global Positioning Systems.

"It's the system of equipment that lets us see and make sure the cargo and personnel gets from the factory to the foxhole," Maj. Walter J. Chwastyk, TPOE executive officer said.

The Soldiers and Airmen had the opportunity to take part in hands-on training with some of the military's most high-



Ryan Morton

WE'RE TRACKING -- Sgt. Derek Pace gives a demonstration of how the Mobile Tracking System (MTS) works during the In-Transit Visibility Expo at McGuire Air Force Base Dec. 5. The expo allowed Soldiers and Airmen to glimpse the latest in Army cargo and personnel tracking equipment.

tech tracking equipment.

"This event is good because it gives the Soldiers and Airmen a chance to see where they fit into the logistics equation and answer the question of why," Capt. Ingrid Grahl,

gain a better understanding of where they fit into the whole equation.

This event, according to Grahl, was set up for three reasons: First, to educate the Army and Air Force personnel; second, to allow the Soldiers and Airmen to teach and demonstrate their knowledge on their trained specialty area of expertise; and third, to enhance professional development with the Soldiers and Airmen.

The response to the ITV expo seemed to be very positive.

"It gives you one more tool, and it's good because you get a chance to see the different aspects of the process and gives you a better understanding of what's going on," Staff Sgt. Douglas Schroeder, TPOE, said.

Another expo is already in the planning stages for the spring, but this time all personnel from any department in the Dix/McGuire community are welcome to come out and take part.

Lending a helping hand

Sgt. Maj. Ricky Orange, MRB, joins representatives from the Dix/McGuire community, the N.J. State Police, and the Star Group Nov. 29 to donate money and care packages at the Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) warehouse on Fort Dix for "Operation Helping Hand." The money and care packages will go toward helping deploying Soldiers, Airmen, and their families.

Ryan Morton



Relationship Safety

Everyone has the right to feel safe in his or her relationships. Are you or do you know anyone in an abusive relationship?

Look for these signs:

- threats or intimidation
- isolation from family and friends
- denying access to money
- sexual abuse
- involving or using children in adult conflicts
- destroying personal possessions
- feeling fearful
- painful put-downs

Important phone numbers:

Providence House hotline
871-7551
NJ Domestic Violence hotline
800-572-SAFE
Fort Dix Victim Advocate
562-2767
McGuire Victim Advocate
754-9672

For emergency assistance call 911

WDIX Channel 2

NEIGHBORHOOD

THE CORNER

Dinner theater coming to Dix Youth Center

The season is here when people take time to reflect on things divine and share gifts, one with another.

To help families that may be struggling a little at this time of the year, Operation Santa Claus fills the gap.

As in years past, the door swung open wide on Nov. 30 as first sergeants and commanders were invited in to see and hear what is being provided for families in need of assistance.

The program was started in 1958 by Staff Sgt. Samuel Divita, a member of the 5th Training Brigade, who donated toys to needy Soldiers in his unit.

When the word got out about his good deeds, other people started making donations of toys and money to aid in the cause.

Volunteers from McGuire Air Force Base and Fort Dix man a donation drop off point at the BX/PX collecting new and used toys and monetary donations. There is also a toy drop-off box adjacent to Bldg. 5343 on Airport Road.

Due to many personal emergencies

Call Rod Martell at 562-2186 for more information.

Job interviews to be held soon at ACS

Contemporary Staffing Solutions will be accepting applications and conducting interviews Dec. 18 from 9 a.m. to noon at Army Community Service, Bldg. 5201 Maryland Avenue.

Some of the positions they will be hiring for are administrative/officer support, executive administrators, human resources, project managers, CSS technical service, IT management, quality assurance and technical writers. Some of these positions are Temporary, Term-Hire, Direct Hire and Contract, Contract to Hire and Direct Hire.

Call Rod Martell at 562-2186 for more information.

DoD taking nominations for ESGR Freedom Award

The Department of Defense opened the nomination season for the 2008 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award Nov. 1.

Nominations will be accepted at www.esgr.mil until Jan. 21, 2008. The Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award is the U.S. government's highest recognition given to outstanding employees.

For questions regarding the nomination process, please call Hank Pierre of the New Jersey ESGR Committee at 562-0156.

Teen Center to host Career Mentoring

The Fort Dix and McGuire Air Force Base Youth Centers, along with the McGuire Family Support Center, are sponsoring a Career Mentoring Program for 14-18 year olds at the Fort Dix Teen Center Friday evenings from 6 to 7 p.m. through Jan. 18, 2008.

For more information, call the Fort Dix Youth Center at 562-5061, the McGuire Youth Center at 754-5437, or the McGuire Family Support Center at 754-3154.

United Communities needs Resident Board members

Fort Dix and McGuire Air Force Base are seeking additional Family Housing Residents to serve on the housing privatization Resident Representative Board (RRB).

The RRB's objective is to provide resident input to improve their housing communities.

RRB members need to be UC family housing residents and willing to obtain input from other residents. The RRB meets once a month, typically at 1 p.m. on the second Wednesday on Fort Dix or McGuire.

The next RRB meeting is scheduled for Dec. 12 at 1 p.m. in the McGuire Club, 2508 East Third Street. For more information or to join the RRB, call Judith Holliday at 754-3361 or Rich Sample at 562-5025 or send e-mail to judith.holliday@mcguire.af.mil or richard.sample@us.army.mil.

Volunteers needed for speaking engagements

The Fort Dix Public Affairs Office is currently looking for officer and senior NCO volunteers to help us in our community relations efforts by becoming part of our speaker's bureau. All that's needed for speaking engagements is enthusiasm, personality and the ability to read and engage the audience.

So if you have the availability and desire to connect with our neighbors and bring a personal touch to the Fort Dix community, please call Gerry Zanzalari, Fort Dix Public Affairs, at 562-4034.

Operation Santa needs volunteers

Wayne Cook
Public Affairs Staff

This year - including a bout with cancer for Operation Santa Claus president Vince Bowker, two heart attacks for his wife, the passing of Bowker's mother-in-law, and the organization's vice-president dealing with throat cancer - the operation is way behind where it would normally be at this time of year.

The only workers at the program this year so far have been the above-mentioned people. Volunteers to help with toy refurbishment, shelf stocking, cleaning, and toy distribution are sorely needed and welcomed. Due to employment requirements of Bowker and his volunteer staff, the distribution times have been trimmed somewhat this year.

Anyone who is interested in helping out at Operation Santa Claus should call 562-3825 and speak to Bowker or one of the staff or leave a voicemail. Questions may also be directed to unit first sergeants and commanders.

Any Soldier or Airman who is interested and could use the help of the program need only to fill out an application with his or her first sergeant and, if approved, set up an appointment time to go and pick up his or her toys.

Volunteers from McGuire Air Force Base and Fort Dix man a donation drop off point at the BX/PX collecting new and used toys and monetary donations. There is also a toy drop-off box adjacent to Bldg. 5343 on Airport Road.

Due to many personal emergencies

Cell phones can be used to save lives

Eric L. Allen
TLC Environmental, Health and Safety officer

We all carry our mobile phones with names and numbers stored in its memory, but nobody -- other than ourselves -- knows which of these numbers belong to our closest family or friends.

If we were to be involved in an accident or were taken ill, the people attending us would have our mobile phone but wouldn't know who to call. Yes, there are hundreds of numbers stored, but which one is the contact person in case of an emergency?

Hence the ICE (In Case of Emergency) Campaign. The concept of ICE is catching on quickly. It is a method of contact during emergency situations. As cell phones are carried by the majority of the population, all you need to do is store the number of a contact person or persons who should be contacted during emergency under the name ICE.

The idea was thought up by a paramedic who found that when he went to the scenes of accidents, there were always mobile phones with patients, but they didn't know which number to call. He therefore thought that it would be a good idea if there was a nationally recognized name for this purpose. In an emergency situation, Emergency Service personnel and hospital Staff would be able to quickly contact the right person by simply dialing the number you have stored as ICE.

For more than one contact name, simply enter ICE1, ICE2 and ICE3, etc. It's great idea that will make a difference. Let's spread the concept of ICE by storing an ICE number in our mobile phones today.

ICE will speak for you when you are not able to.

Chaplains' Corner

Christmas spirit not measured in numbers

Chap. (Col.) Larry Biederman
Installation Chaplain

Le 19:34 - But the stranger that dwelleth with you shall be unto you as one born among you, and thou shalt love him as thyself; for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God.

Among the most difficult things that I do as a Soldier is participate in what I have sometimes referred to as the holiday change of station - or mobilization - that takes me away from my family on Thanksgiving and Christmas.

In 1988, I did my best not to go to Germany until the holidays were over in January. Our Army, with all of its insistence and a little personal guilt that the Soldiers would not have services unless I arrived, made it possible for me to arrive in Germany a few weeks before Christmas.

Upon my arrival, I met my chaplain assistant. We opened up the chapel, which had not had services in it for a while, and waited for the throngs of glad worshippers to arrive.

First Sunday we had a congregation of three, including my assistant and myself - the preacher. The fourth Sunday of Advent (the Sunday before Christmas) our attendance went way up to six and

I allowed myself to feel a little bit sorry for myself because I really wanted to be somewhere else and with the family I loved and friends I cared about. It took some spiritual reorganization, some major prayer, and a dash of stubbornness to get me going again. My chaplain assistant knew I had made a decision when I gave him his instruction

I had a large cache of striped candy canes which I delivered one at a time to everyone in the unit, inviting them to the Christmas Eve service, asking God's blessing be in their lives for the Holiday, listening to a litany of complaints about being away from home and family for the holidays, and being politely told that everyone had duty on Christmas Eve.

for a Christmas Eve Candle Light Service with refreshments and candles prepared for 50.

That chaplain assistant, when he heard 50, gave me that knowing look that indicated that I was a little wacky and may have lost touch with reality. Fortunately, he was a good Soldier who did mostly what he was instructed, even if the boss was a little off his rocker.

In the meantime, I had a large cache of striped candy canes which I delivered one at a time to everyone in the unit, inviting them to the Christmas

Eve service, asking God's blessing be in their lives for the Holiday, listening to a litany of complaints about being away from home and family for the holidays, and being politely told that everyone had duty on Christmas Eve.

Then it was Christmas Eve. At 6:30 p.m. I made it to the chapel. The lights were on, the refreshments were ready, the tree was lit, and there were only 25 candles prepared.

I sent my assistant to get 25 more ready and then... 6:30 p.m. -- no attendees, 6:40 p.m. -- the same, 6:50 p.m. -- the same, 6:55 p.m. -- two, 7 p.m. -- four.

As we began the service, I received an "I told you so" signal from my chaplain assistant.

The organ began to play, we began to sing the old familiar carols and share in the story of that long ago birth. As we did so, one at a time strangers entered the Chapel and joined us. Over the course of the service, a room full of 61 strangers became community and family.

The familiar story of God's Love became our story. We had to share candles. We ran out of food.

After we finished, we gathered up music, hot chocolate, and candy canes and caroled the guards at the gates and all those who were pulling duty.

For me, God came down at Christmas time to strangers in a strange land and filled us all with hope.

May God's blessings be with you in a similar fashion as you celebrate this year.



SEASON FOR GIVING -- Vince Bowker, president, Operation Santa Claus, gives a tour to first sergeants and commanders during the program's open house Nov. 30. Wayne Cook



Ryan Morton

A cut above

From left, Anthony Ray Lowry and Nicolas Matute of Lindsay Construction, from left, saw portions of the floor to install plumbing at the Fort Dix/McGuire Air Force Base BX/PX Mall food court. Two new eateries -- Manchu Wok Chinese Cuisine and Charley's Grilled Subs -- are scheduled to open in this renovated portion of the food court in the spring of 2008.



Coming To This Location
In Spring of 2008

Iraq vet takes over chopper battalion

Sgt. Shawn Morris
444th Mobile Public Affairs
Detachment

A half-dozen Blackhawk helicopters bore silent witness as Lt. Col. Francis A. Matreale assumed command of the New Jersey National Guard's 1st Battalion (Air Assault), 150th Aviation Regiment.

Matreale "took the stick" from Lt. Col. Daniel J. Dreher during the formal change-of-command ceremony during a ceremony held Dec. 1 inside the Guard's aviation facility at Mercer County Airport in West Trenton.

"We have several challenging and imminent missions on the horizon," Matreale told the assembled Soldiers from the battalion and guests at the ceremony. The 1-150th is scheduled to return to Iraq in 2008, having been deployed there in 2004-2005.

"As this unit goes off to war next year, there's no doubt in my mind that the right leader is taking you there," said Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, the adjutant general of New Jersey.

"As he assumes command of this unit, he will make a difference," Rieth added. "Wherever he has gone, he has made a difference."

Matreale brings 26 years experience to the 1-150th. He enlisted as an infantryman in 1981, receiving his commission in 1984. In November 2004, Matreale mobilized with the 42nd Infantry Division's Aviation Brigade for Operation Iraqi Freedom III, spending a year at Forward Operating Base Speicher near Tikrit.

Matreale holds a bachelor of science degree in workforce education and training from Southern Illinois University, and is a graduate of the Command and General Staff Col-

lege. His military awards and decorations include the Bronze Star, two Meritorious Service Medals, two Army Commendation Medals, the Global War on Terrorism service and expeditionary medals, the Iraqi Campaign Medal and the Senior Army Aviation Badge.

He lives in Eastampton with wife Donna and sons Jimmy and Frankie.

"Congratulations on an outstanding command," Col. Kevin Hegarty, 57th Troop Command commander, said to Dreher, who had led the 1-150th since October 2006.

"It has been a distinct honor and privilege," said Dreher. "I want to thank each and every Soldier for a superb job."

Dreher was commissioned into the Army in 1982, serving as a company commander with the 1st Armor Division during Desert Storm. He returned to the Middle East for Operation

Iraqi Freedom III, serving as the 1-140th General Support Aviation Battalion.

Dreher graduated from Seton Hall University with a master's degree in education, and has completed the Command and General Staff Officers Course. His military awards and decorations include two Bronze Stars, four Air Medals, five Army Commendation Medals, the Southwest Asia Service Medal with three bronze stars, the Kuwait Liberation Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service and Expeditionary medals and Master Aviator's Wings.

The Manahawkin resident lives with wife Bernadette and children Daniel Jr. and Sarah.

"Let me say thank you to all the Soldiers who are here today. Our success has been because of you—the individual Citizen Soldier," Rieth concluded.



FLYING HIGH — Lt. Col. Francis A. Matreale, left, takes the guidon and command of the 1-150th Assault Helicopter Battalion Dec. 1 from Lt. Col. Daniel J. Dreher, above. Also pictured are Col. Kevin Hegarty, 57th Troop Command commander, far left, and Sgt. Maj. Konrad Uldschmidt, 1-150th command sergeant major, near left.



TOP GUNS — Receiving the Army Commendation Medal during the change-of-command ceremony are, from left, Maj. Jonathan Lapidow, Capt. Eric Tolska, Capt. Ryan Smith, 1st Lt. Justin Oliver, 1st Lt. Alyson Beausoleil-Holt, CW4 Eugene Vandergrift, and Sgt. Marjorie Terilus.

Playing cards teach cultural awareness to troops

Meghan Vittrup
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The Defense Department has been issuing decks of playing cards to deployed troops, but not for Texas Hold 'Em tournaments. The cards are training aids designed to help the servicemembers understand the archaeological significance of their deployed locations.

"It has been my experience that deploying personnel appreciate the history and heritage of the countries where they deploy," said Laurie Rush, cultural resource program manager for the Defense Department's Legacy Resource Management Program at Fort Drum, N.Y.

"The Soldiers here at Fort Drum have been extremely appreciative of our efforts to make training here as realistic as possible and to provide them with information," Rush continued.

Each card has a picture of an archaeological site, artifact or a brief statement about actions that should be

taken upon discovering an archeological site. They explain what constitutes an archaeological site and what to watch for before carrying out missions near these sites.

The cards are also a great source for understanding the culture in which the soldiers are fighting, Rush said.

The queen of hearts card in the new deck also makes a bold statement about the importance of culture, saying that the ancient sites are important to the local community. "Showing respect wins hearts and minds," the card reminds Soldiers.

The idea behind the archaeological deck of cards began when a group of Middle Eastern archaeologists decided to work with the military archaeological community to educate military men and women about the places they are being deployed.

The cards identify several rare archaeological sites and artifacts reminding troops that these areas are not only a part of Iraqi and Afghan cultural history, but also their own.

Each card in the new deck tells a



The two of clubs card depicts the Nabi Yunis mosque in Mosul, Iraq. There is speculation that this mosque holds the ruins of the biblical prophet Jonah.

The six of hearts has a photograph of an artifact with a picture carved in stone. The card reads, "The world's

oldest complete legal code was found in Iraq on a stone carved with an image of Hammurabi, King of Babylon, ca. 1760 B.C."

Previously, a set of 55 cards was issued to coalition forces in 2003, displaying names, photographs, and titles of the "most wanted" senior officials in Saddam Hussein's regime. The idea was to put photographs of officials into the hands of troops so that during their missions to bring down the regime, they could quickly recognize the officials should they come in contact with them.

Similarly, the archaeological cards act as a guide using photographs and facts. Understanding how to work around archaeological sites is imperative to U.S. troops preventing unnecessary delays during the preparation of missions, Rush said.

The enemy has been known to use these historical sites and artifacts to their advantage, as evidenced by the recent destruction of the Golden Dome Mosque's minarets in Samarra, Iraq.

"The enemy may use cultural properties — including ruins, cemeteries and

religious buildings — as firing points," a pocket guide that's part of the training materials warns U.S. military personnel.

Officials are hoping that this new program will inform troops about the importance of protecting the past and respecting the things that are important to the Iraqi and Afghanistan cultures.

Rush said the program will not only include the playing cards, but will also incorporate Web-based training and simulated event training, as well as the construction of some mock ruins. She said the idea is to "increase training realism."

"U.S. forces have been severely criticized for their part in damaging or failing to protect cultural properties when occupying archaeologically sensitive areas in military theatres of occupation," according to a Training for In-Theatre Cultural Resource Protection fact sheet.

"In military operations where winning hearts and minds is a critical component of success, protection of cultural property becomes vital to the success of the mission," the fact sheet also indicated.

Announcements



**Movie
Schedule**
at the McGuire AFB Theatre
Movie Hotline 754-5139

Friday, December 7 @ 7:30 p.m.

Dan in Real Life - Steve Carell, Juliette Binoche, Dane Cook - Dan Ashburn is a devoted single father and renowned advice columnist. When his entire extended family gets together for a reunion in a beach-front house, he unexpectedly meets Marie, the woman of his dreams. She is smart, funny, beautiful and she just happens to be his brother Mitch's girlfriend. The man with all the answers finds that the hardest advice to take is his own.

MPAA Rating: PG-13 - some innuendo

Run time: 98 minutes

Saturday, December 8 @ 7:30 p.m.

American Gangster - Denzel Washington, Russell Crowe, Chiwetel Ejiofor, Cuba Gooding, Jr., Josh Brolin - Frank Lucas (Denzel Washington) earns his living as a chauffeur to one of Harlem's leading mobsters. After his boss dies, Frank uses his own ingenuity and strict business code to rise up as one of the inner city's most powerful crime bosses. Meanwhile, veteran cop Richie Roberts (Russell Crowe) senses a change in organized crime's power structure, and looks for ways to bring his opponent to justice.

MPAA Rating: R - violence, pervasive drug content and language, nudity and sexuality

Run time: 157 minutes

Future Features...

Bee Movie

Friday, Dec. 14 @ 7:30 p.m.

PG, 100 minutes.

Fred Claus

Saturday, Dec. 15 @ 7:30 p.m.

PG, 116 minutes.

Hearts Apart Holiday Party

for mobilized and deployed Soldiers and family members

Dec. 11 at 6 p.m. in the Youth Center
call 562-3271 for more information

Main Chapel

562-2020

Sunday Services

Protestant 9 - 10 a.m.
Catholic Mass 10:15 - 11:15 a.m.
Gospel 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Camp Victory - Chaplain's tent

Protestant 8 a.m. - 9 a.m.
Catholic 8 a.m. - 9 a.m.
Mormon 8 a.m. - 9 a.m.
Jewish 8 a.m. - 9 a.m.

Wednesday Services

Main Chapel

Protestant 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Religious Services

Islamic Prayer room
open 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through
Friday - Room 24

Catholic Adult Bible Study
Sundays, 11:30 a.m.

Christian Women of the Chapel -
Bible Study - Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m. to noon

Christian Men of the Chapel -
Prayer Breakfast - Fourth Saturday of each
month, 9 to 11 a.m.

Youth of the Chapel
Every second and fourth Tuesday
7 to 9 p.m.

Jewish services available by request

For additional services or Religious Sup-
port please call 562-2020

Religious materials are available at the
JRC, the Main Chapel, and Camp Victory

Holiday Events and Services

Mon., Dec. 10 - Chanuka Party, 6 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 23 - regular scheduled services
Mon., Dec. 24 - Catholic Mass, 5 p.m.;
Candlelight Service, 7 p.m.
Tues., Dec. 25 - Catholic Mass, 10:15 a.m.
Sun., Dec. 30 - regular scheduled services
Mon., Dec. 31 - Catholic Mass, 6 p.m.

Youth Center

Bldg. 1279 Locust Street
562-5061

Hours of Operation:
Tuesday - Friday 2 to 7 p.m.
Saturday 1 to 7 p.m.
Sunday & Monday CLOSED
Administrative Hours:
Tuesday - Friday noon to 6 p.m.

Dec 7 - Dec 13

Friday

Power Hour Store

2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Computer Lab

4 - 6 p.m.

Keystone Club

6 - 8 p.m.

Saturday

Ready, Set, Bake:

Gingerbread Cookies

3 - 5 p.m.

Monday

Power Hour

2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Computer Lab

4 - 6 p.m.

Tuesday

Power Hour

2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Computer Lab

4 - 6 p.m.

Torch Club

4 - 5 p.m.

Caroling Practice

BGCA Local Art Show

at Arts and Crafts

(Dec. 11 - 15)

Wednesday

Power Hour

2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Sports and Fitness

3:45 - 4:45 p.m.

(weight training)

Computer Lab

4 - 6 p.m.

Thursday

Power Hour

2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Computer Lab

4 - 6 p.m.

Torch Club

4 - 5 p.m.

Dining Facility Schedule

Bldg. 5501 OES Closed

Breakfast 6 - 8 a.m.

Lunch 11:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Dinner 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Bldg. 5517 NCOA Closed

Breakfast 6:30 - 8 a.m.

Lunch 11:30 - 1 p.m.

Dinner 4:30 - 6 p.m.

Bldg. 5610 Surge Every Day

Breakfast 6 - 7:30 a.m.

Lunch 11:30 - 1 p.m.

Dinner 4:30 - 6 p.m.

Bldg. 5640 Surge Closed

Breakfast 6 - 7:30 a.m.

Lunch 11:30 - 1 p.m.

Dinner 4:30 - 6 p.m.

Bldg. 5985 Camp Victory (FOB)

Breakfast 5 - 6:30 a.m.

Dinner 6 - 7:30 p.m.

Bldg. 5986 Surge Every Day

Breakfast 6 - 7:30 a.m.

Lunch 11:30 - 1 p.m.

Dinner 4:30 - 6 p.m.

Meal Rates Breakfast - \$2

Lunch - \$3.65 Dinner - \$3.65

MWR

Calendar of Events

**Outdoor Rec. Christmas
Trees on sale. For more infor-
mation call 562-2707.**

**Join us for the Installation
Tree Lighting Ceremony at
Wurman Hall. Events start at 4
p.m. Friday, Dec. 7.**

**Installation to host annual
holiday party Dec. 11 at the
Griffith Field House. Tickets on
sale now!**

**Come to the Arts and Crafts
Center, Bldg. 6039, to create
your holiday decorations. Spe-
cial classes available for cards,
wreaths, gingerbread houses
and more. Call 562-5691**

**The Famous Laugh Factory
of New York City is seeking local
talent to perform on stage at
Club Dix with famous comedi-
ans from NBC's 30 Rock, The
Daily Show and Late Night TV.
Those interested in participating
can call 723-4756 for details.**

24-hour Hotlines

Sexual Assault.....562-3849

Victim Advocacy.....694-8724

Child/Spouse Abuse..562-6001

Emergencies.....911

**Or, visit the Fort Dix Department of
Defense Police Department in Bldg.
6049 on 8th Street.**

2007 International and Military Mail Christmas Mailing Dates

To ensure delivery of holiday cards and packages by December 25 to military APO/FPO addresses overseas and to international addresses, we suggest that mail be entered by the recommended mailing dates listed below. Beat the last-minute rush and take your mail to your Post Office by these suggested dates. And don't forget you can print postage, labels, and Customs Forms online (S&F) using Click-N-Ship at usps.com/clicknship.

Remember, all mail addressed to military post offices overseas is subject to certain conditions or restrictions regarding content, preparation, and handling. APO/FPO addresses generally require Customs Forms. To see a table of active APO and FPO addresses and mailing restrictions by individual APO/FPO ZIP Codes, go to pe.usps.com and click "Postal Bulletins." Go to the current issue and see the heading "Overseas Military Mail."

Military Mail Addressed To	Express Mail® Military Service (EMMS)®	First-Class Mail® Letters/Cards	Priority Mail®	Parcel Air® Mail (PAL)®	Space Available Mail (SAM)®	Parcel Post®
APO/FPO AE ZIPs 960-999	Dec 18	Dec 11	Dec 11	Dec 4	Nov 27	Nov 13
APO/FPO AE ZIPs 980	N/A	Dec 4	Dec 4	Dec 4	Nov 27	Nov 13
APO/FPO AE ZIPs 994-999	Dec 18	Dec 11	Dec 11	Dec 4	Nov 27	Nov 13
APO/FPO AA ZIPs 340	Dec 18	Dec 11	Dec 11	Dec 4	Nov 27	Nov 13
APO/FPO AP ZIPs 962-999	Dec 18	Dec 11	Dec 11	Dec 4	Nov 27	Nov 13

1/ EMMS: Express Mail Military Service is available to selected military post offices. Check with your local Post Office to determine if this service is available to your APO/FPO address.

2/ PAL: PAL is a service that provides air transportation for parcels on a space-available basis. It is available for Parcel Post items not exceeding 30 pounds in weight or 60 inches in length and girth combined. The applicable PAL fee must be paid in addition to the regular surface rate of postage for each addressed piece sent by PAL service.

3/ SAM: SAM parcels are sent at Parcel Post postage rate of postage with maximum weight and size limits of 15 pounds and 60 inches in length and girth combined. SAM parcels are first transported domestically by surface and then to overseas destinations by air on a space-available basis.

International Mail Addressed to	Global Express Guaranteed® (GXG)®	Express Mail® International (EMI)®	Priority Mail® International	First-Class Mail® International
Africa	Dec 19	Dec 12	Dec 4	Dec 4
Asia / Pacific Rim	Dec 19	Dec 12	Dec 11	Dec 11
Australia / New Zealand	Dec 19	Dec 12	Dec 11	Dec 11
Canada	Dec 20	Dec 18	Dec 11	Dec 11
Caribbean	Dec 19	Dec 12	Dec 11	Dec 11
Central & South America	Dec 19	Dec 12	Dec 4	Dec 4
Mexico	Dec 19	Dec 12	Dec 11	Dec 11
Europe	Dec 19	Dec 12	Dec 11	Dec 11
Middle East	Dec 19	Dec 12	Dec 11	Dec 11

4/ GXG is available to over 190 countries via an alliance with Federal Express. See a retail associate at participating locations for a complete list of countries and money-back guarantee details, or go to pe.usps.com and click "International Rates and Fees." See "Country Listing." You can also see the March/April 2007 issue of MailPro. Some restrictions apply. Free shipping supplies are available. Purchase postage online and receive 10% discount.

5/ EMI is available to over 190 countries with delivery in 3 to 5 average business days. Guaranteed money-back service is available to Australia, China, Hong Kong, Japan and Korea (Republic of South). Flat rate shipping options and free packaging are available. Purchase postage online and receive an 8% discount.

6/ Priority Mail International is available to over 190 countries with delivery in 6-10 average business days. Flat rate shipping options and free packaging are available. Purchase postage online and receive a 2% discount.

*Average number of days may vary based upon origin and destination

MILITARY MATTERS

AAFES offers free tunes for troops to download

Judd Anstey
Army & Air Force Exchange Service

DALLAS, Dec. 4, 2007 - Recognizing that music has always been integral to morale, more than a dozen of the biggest names in country, rock, pop and R&B are teaming up with the Army & Air Force Exchange Service and America Supports You to deliver a special gift to troops this holiday season - a free compilation of songs produced exclusively for Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors and Marines.

"Grammy-nominated, platinum-selling singer/songwriter John Ondrasik of Five for Fighting approached us about this project a few months back after learning of AAFES' extensive presence in Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom," said Lt. Col. Dean Thurmond, AAFES' chief of communications. "While initial conversations focused on delivering a physical CD to PXs and BXs in the contingency theater, we quickly came to the conclusion that offering the songs through AAFES' secure Web site was probably the best way to ensure everyone in uniform had an opportunity to receive this special gift."

the number of troops logging on goes way up in November and December." I'm excited about the prospect of a Soldier, Airman, Sailor or Marine going to the site to get a present for someone else and finding this terrific gift that has been created just for them. This project also represents how much the nation, and specifically these artists, appreciate the service of their military."

The complete track list of free songs available at www.aafes.com as part of the "CD For the Troops" project are as follows:

● Billy Joel - Scenes from an Italian Restaurant
● Brooks & Dunn - Keep on Swingin'
● Five for Fighting - 100 Years
● The Fray - How to Save a Life (acoustic)
● Gary Sinise and the Lt. Dan Band - Sweet Home Chicago
● Goo Goo Dolls - Feel the Silence (remix)
● Jewel - Hands
● Josh Groban - February Song
● Los Lonely Boys - Heaven
● Melissa Etheridge - Come to my Window
● Montgomery Gentry - My Town
● The Neville Brothers - Brothers
● Sarah McLachlan - Wintersong

Lt. Col. Dean Thurmond
AAFES communications

with military IDs through www.aafes.com for free beginning Nov. 17.

"The timing couldn't be better," said Brig. Gen. Keith Thurgood, AAFES' commander. "While aafes.com is heavily trafficked throughout the year,

FORT DIX PROGRAM Suspected Terrorist Activity Reporting (STAR)

Countering terrorism requires the help of everyone in the community. Only you know who or what belongs to, or doesn't belong to, your building, neighborhood, or work area. The simple act of recognizing suspicious behavior and reporting it to the authorities could prevent terrorist acts and save lives. Become a STAR - please help Fort Dix by being alert and reporting any of the following:

* Surveillance: Someone recording or monitoring activities using cameras, note taking, drawing diagrams, creating maps, using binoculars or other vision-enhancing devices. An element of this activity could also include mapping out routes and determining the timing of traffic lights and flow.

* Elicitation: People attempting to get information. These attempts may be made by mail, fax, telephone, e-mail or in person and may seem like very innocent questions about what you do and where you work.

* Tests of Security: Any attempt to measure reaction times and action by security forces. A test of security can be disguised as a simple mistake such as a vehicle approaching a security barrier and then turning around or an attempt to circumvent access control procedures to assess strengths and weaknesses of the security forces and equipment.

* Acquiring Supplies: Purchasing or stealing police and military uniforms, emergency responder type vehicles (such as police cars and ambulances), installation access passes and other identification or the equipment to manufacture them.

* Dry Run or Practice: People or vehicles appear to have been purposely placed in a particular position or area. This is especially true when planning a kidnapping, but also pertains to bombings.

* Suspicious Persons Out of Place: People who don't seem to belong or fit in the surrounding environment, especially if involved in any of the above listed activities.

Report any of the above to:
Fort Dix Police (609) 562-6001 / 6002
Fort Dix Antiterrorism Officer (609) 562-2153 / 2417

**NCO Call
at Club Dix**
Wednesdays at 6 p.m.



Global War on Terrorism calls 404th Civil Affairs Battalion



photos by Ed Mingin

Members of the 404th Civil Affairs Battalion, above, board a bus at the Kelly Reserve Center Nov. 29. The unit, which is stationed at the Kelley Reserve Center, is being deployed as part of the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT). For many Soldiers, this is the second or third time they have deployed for GWOT. Spc. John Strom, Alpha Company, top, loads his gear onto the bus. At right, Cpl. Gregory Ferguson II shows 1st Sgt. Dennis Hicks his Army Achievement Medal before heading out.

Family Engagement Kit protects returning troops

FORT RUCKER, Ala. Dec. 4, 2007 - Army officials are empowering Family members to take an active role in implementing safety practices to protect their Families and loved ones returning home from deployments.

The Army recognizes that Army Families are a highly powerful group, capable of positively influencing how Soldiers and Family members think. The Army's new Family Engagement Kit raises Families' awareness of the leading indicators in accidents while passing along the "what" and "how" of best practices. Armed with these newly created tools, Family members are afforded active involvement in their Soldiers' safety.

The U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center study of accident and associated statistics, indicates when Soldiers return from a deployment or controlled environment, the rigors and oversight provided by leaders is diminished.

During fiscal 2007, 186 Soldiers died within one year of returning from deployments. Approximately 30 percent of the deaths occurred within the first 30 days of post-deployment and 63 percent within the first six months. Of the 186 fatalities, 145 involved privately owned vehicles during off-duty hours.

Army safety officials are convinced that oversight, control and structure are beneficial to achieve an accident-free

environment. The USACRC's collective challenge is to formulate tools that target safety and risk management as a "way of life" for application when Soldiers are off duty.

"As leaders, we know that direct engagement with our Soldiers makes a positive difference in their safety," said Brig. Gen. Bill Forrester, director of Army safety and commanding general of the

These web-based tools are self-explanatory, self-supporting with PowerPoint briefs containing associated talking points.

USACRC. "No one knows Soldiers better than their Families and there are few organizations better positioned than Families to influence Soldiers to make safer choices and take fewer risks."

Forrester added that the USACRC believes it is extremely difficult to look a spouse or child in the eye and tell them you are not going to wear your helmet or a seat belt because you don't care enough to stay alive for them.

"The Family Engagement Kit features tools that Family members can use to engage their loved ones in best safety practices in order to help protect them," said Forrester. "Many take very little time or

effort, and the payoff is huge."

In all, the kit includes six tools for post-deployment best practices. One such tool is the Travel Risk Planning System, better known as TRIPS. The aim of TRIPS is to reduce the risk of accidents when traveling by POV, the No. 1 killer of Soldiers.

Another potentially life-saving tool included in the kit is the Motorcycle/ATV Agreement. This tool encourages Families and their Soldiers to discuss the hazards and safety measures associated with riding motorcycles or all-terrain vehicles.

The Army's goal is to put these tools into the hands and empower Army Family Team Building trainers, Family Readiness Group leaders, brigade-level safety professionals, BOSS leaders, parents, and individual Family members to keep our Army team safe, Forrester added.

Families are encouraged to embrace the Family Engagement Kit as another tool supporting one common desire - safer Soldiers and Families.

"Family involvement is essential, so I ask for engagement with your loved one," Forrester said. "With your help, we can better protect our Nation's most precious assets - our Soldiers."

For more information about the Family Engagement Kit, visit the USACRC Web site at <https://cra.army.mil/family-engagement>.

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Kryn P. Westhoven, Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Public Affairs
Col. Ronald R. Thaxton, installation commander, left, and Command Sgt. Maj. Anthony Young, command sergeant major for mobilization, center, receive an Ultimate Weapon plaque and a \$12,018 check for the Army One Fund from Fort Dix Honorary Commander Eric Spevak, right, during the Sixth Annual Veterans Dinner Dance Dec. 1 in Cherry Hill.

Service members first



Kryn P. Westhoven, Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Public Affairs
Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, the adjutant general of the New Jersey National Guard, left, and his wife Linda, co-chair of the National Guard State Family Readiness Council, center, accept an \$11,018 check from Eric Spevak, right, to support grants for deployed New Jersey Soldiers and Airmen.



New Jersey State Police Capt. Timothy Goss, Christopher Ramos of the Star Group, and Air Force Col. James Kerr, 514th Air Mobility commander, from left, present a check to the Freedom Wing Foundation to help aid deploying military members suffering financial hardship.

Ryan Morton

Honoring the Colors

Reveille
6 a.m. (0600 hours)

Military personnel in uniform

Stand at attention, face the flag and salute at first note.

Military personnel not in uniform, civilians

Stand at attention, face the flag and place right hand over heart at first note.

Military personnel in formation or in a group

Senior Soldier calls group to "Attention," then "Present, Arms" at first note. Calls "Order, Arms" at conclusion.

Individual military personnel, civilians in a vehicle

Stop vehicle and exit. Follow steps above.

Group of military personnel in a vehicle

Stop vehicle. Individual in charge exits and follows steps above.

Retreat
5 p.m. (1700 hours)

Stand at attention, face the flag for Retreat, then salute at first note of To the Colors.

Stand at attention, face the flag for Retreat, then place right hand over heart at first note of To the Colors.

Senior Soldier calls group to "Attention," then "Parade, Rest" at first note of Retreat. Calls group to "Attention" and "Present, Arms" at first note of To the Colors, then "Order, Arms" at conclusion.

Stop vehicle and exit. Follow steps above.

Stop vehicle. Individual in charge exits and follows steps above.

Other bugle calls heard on post are:

Tattoo.....9 p.m. (2100 hours)
Call to Quarters.....9:30 p.m. (2130 hours)
Taps.....10 p.m. (2200 hours)

MRB Dix champs challenge McGuire



photos by Ed Mingin

Fort Dix flag football wrapped up Dec. 4, when MRB, above, and the Renegades met for the championship. To advance to the championship game, MRB beat Buittness, regular season champs the Wildcats, and the Renegades. The Renegades beat the Razorbacks, then lost to MRB. In the loser bracket, the Renegades defeated the Wildcats to advance to the final game. Cold weather and snow flurries did little to deter the player's enthusiasm for the championship game, and the Renegades took a 13-6 victory to force a second game in the double-loss competition. MRB bounced back in the second game, winning 13-0 to become Fort Dix Champions. Reese Brown, left, and Jacob Carver, top right, will join the rest of their MRB teammates to challenge the McGuire flag football champions. Results of the game, scheduled for Dec. 6, will be in next week's edition of the Post.

Soldier gives action figure at Army-Navy game

Edric Thompson
Army News Service

BALTIMORE (Dec. 3, 2007) -- As a child, Sgt. Tommy Rieman loved GI Joe action figures so much that he dreamed of being a "real American hero." Little did he realize that one day his dream would come true.

This past weekend at the Army-Navy game, Rieman, Delta Company, 1/116th

Infantry, Virginia Army National Guard, worked the Army Football Toss station in the Baltimore Inner Harbor, handing out prizes -- including his own action figure.

Rieman is one of six real Soldiers featured in the video game, "America's Army: True Soldiers." Although the game for the Xbox 360 gaming system wasn't released until mid-November, the action figures of the Soldiers hit store shelves in

August.

The Soldiers chosen as the game's heroes received Silver Stars or Bronze Stars with "Valor" device for heroism in combat. During his 18 months in Iraq, Rieman was awarded the Purple Heart, Silver Star and Army Commendation Medal of Valor while with Echo Company, 51st Infantry Long Range Surveillance Unit, V Corps, out of Germany.

"It's surreal and a lot of fun. I enjoy it, but it's not always what it's cracked up to be," Rieman said. "I have a lot of family members who love to dress my action figure up and give me a hard time for being a doll. I take offense to that. I'm an action figure; I have chest hair."

The video game gives him a hard time too.

"I've been playing it every day since its launch, but I still haven't beaten it," he said with exasperation. "I love it, but it's a tough game."

All joking aside, Rieman knows that being a hero can be tough. Just like Spiderman said, "With great power comes great responsibility."

"You have to be careful not to let your guard down because you're held to a higher standard than others, so you've got to constantly maintain your composure and watch what you say," Rieman said. "It can be a strain, but I'm appreciative of the opportunity to be a hero."

"To me there's no greater job out there. The accomplishments and the amount of work you put into being a great Sol-

dier is very rewarding," he said. "That's why it's important for the Army to be everywhere because it's great to be able to tell people what you do."

One of the reasons Rieman enjoys interacting with the public is to dispel stereotypes about the Army.

"Not everybody knows enough about the Army or what Soldiers do. If you sat them down, nine out of 10 people would give you a generalization. We're out here to tell them the truth about the cohesiveness, the hard work and effort, the training and our

capabilities," he said. "We need to give everybody the opportunity to hear the facts and make up their own minds about whether they want to serve or not. What greater venue to do so than the Army-Navy game?"

Though he didn't like the final score, Rieman enjoyed his first Army-Navy game.

"The Army and the Navy are gray brothers, and it's a fun rivalry. We can give each other a hard time, but at the end we all come together, and that's the most important thing," he said. "After serving in Iraq, I'm

thankful for all the men and women who have fought through the years so it could be possible for people to come out and enjoy a football game."

These same wartime experiences have also helped shape his perspective on being an action hero.

"I love being on the video game and being an action figure; it's one of the coolest things you could ever have, but it's not actually deploying and saving lives. To me, the coolest thing is having those guys raise their right hands to serve their country."



Edric Thompson

ACTION PACKED -- Lyssa Kagel, 5, of Baltimore chose Sgt. Tommy Rieman's action figure for her prize after successfully completing the football toss.

Navy sinks Army 38-3

The U.S. Naval Academy is celebrating Navy's historic sixth straight win over Army after a 38-3 victory in the 108th Army-Navy football game, held in Baltimore Dec. 1.

It's been a season for the records for the Midshipmen, who now claim ownership of the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy for a sixth year.

This is the first time in the history of the game that either academy has won six straight games.

Navy now heads into their fifth straight bowl game 8-4.



Petty Officer 1st Class Chad J. McNeeley

LET'S ROLL -- Naval Academy Quarterback Kaipo-Noa Kaheaku-Enhada carries the ball during the midshipmen's 38-3 victory over the U.S. Military Academy's cadets in the 108th Army-Navy game.

including a triumphant victory over Notre Dame, Navy's first defeat of the Fighting Irish since Roger Staubach was a Midshipman 43 years ago.

Midshipman 1st Class Reggie Campbell, who led the victorious Brigade in the singing of the school song after the win, claimed the biggest play of the game. Campbell returned a 98-yard kickoff in the second quarter, setting yet another Navy record and giving the Midshipmen a 14-3 lead.

In the last play of the first half, Campbell set Midshipman 1st Class Joey Bullen up for a 51-yard field goal.

A series of misplays, fumbles, and dropped passes left the Black Knights fighting a losing battle against their archrivals.

Navy's win puts them 52-49-7 against Army in an epic rivalry that began in 1890. Navy's defeat of Air Force earlier in the season will guarantee the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy remains safely in Annapolis.

The Midshipmen take on the University of Utah Utes on Dec. 20 at the third annual San Diego County Credit Union Poinsettia Bowl at Qualcomm Stadium in San Diego.

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To sign up for the Holiday Fitness Fun Program, sign, date and return the bottom portion of this flyer to the class instructor. You will then receive an attendance card that you should bring to every class. Sorry we will not mark cards after the fact, classes must be noted at time of attendance. ALL participants who have completed 24 classes by Jan. 2, 2008 and have their cards annotated will be presented with a CD Case!

Griffith Field House Bldg. 605 8th & Mills St. 609 362 4000 or www.walmsley.com

Club offers big screen for big game

Club Dix bartender Celia Morgan didn't have much company for the Army-Navy game Saturday but says business has been brisk for NFL offerings on weekends. Celia is standing in front of the club's pride and joy, a TV screen that's six feet tall and a whopping eight feet wide, ideal for mooning over one's favorite grid stars. Army fans are distraught, of course, over Navy's overwhelming victory but patriots can take heart from the attitude expressed by Navy fullback Adam Ballard. He's turned down NFL feelers to become a Marine officer. "Being a Marine fits my mentality," Ballard explained. "I like to be down in the dirt with a gun in my hand." Sign that man up for the Army. Hoo-rah!

Steve Snyder